

12 killed in
Saudi airport
attack; India
slams strike

NEW DELHI: India on Sunday strongly condemned a major attack on Saudi Arabia's international airport in Riyadh that killed 12 people and injured over 300. New Delhi said the repeated attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure in the Gulf nation are "completely unacceptable and must cease immediately." "We strongly condemn the repeated attacks on Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport over the past few days, including the dastardly attack on October 10, which have led to loss of lives, injuries and damage to property," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement. "We express our condolences to the families of the deceased and wish speedy recovery to the injured persons," it said. ► P11

Flash floods
strike Nepal
again after
Aug disaster

KATHMANDU: Nepali authorities on Sunday rescued nearly 50 people and urged the villagers to move to safer places after a flash flood in the Budhi Gandaki River swept away more than a dozen houses, bridges and also damaged two hydropower projects in the Gorkha district. However, at least 10 people remain missing but there were no immediate reports of casualties. The Gorkha district administration has urged people by the riverside to stay alert and shift to safe places, Netra Prasad Sharma, Assistant Chief District ► P11

Dr Jitendra Singh holds
public darbar at Sukrala

JAMMU: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today held a Public Darbar at Sukrala in Billaوار, Kathua district, along with MLA Billaوار Satish Sharma and senior officers of the district administration and various departments, to listen to public grievances and review key developmental issues concerning the region. During the Public Dar-

SMVD shrine gets J-K Bank's
'Currency Exchange Facility'

JAMMU: On the eve of Navratri, J&K Bank further strengthened its services for pilgrims visiting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine by inaugurating a fresh currency counter at Bhawan in collaboration with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB). CEO SMVDSB Sachin Kumar Vaishya (IAS) and Bank's MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee jointly inaugurated the facility in the presence of Vice Chancellor Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Prof Pragti Kumar, Bank's DGM Arjun Singh Rathore and SDM Bhawan Anshumali Sharma. Tehsildar Bhawan Mukesh Kumar Thapa, Head Pandit Gopal Sharma and Bank's Branch Head Gourav Modi, besides other officials and devotees, were also present on the occasion. The counter will facilitate access to fresh currency notes for offerings, rituals and routine transactions, adding to the banking ► P11

Over 200 detained as CJP
stir enters day 2 in Delhi

Dipke, Ranka, Das freed with 'peace condition'



NEW DELHI: The Cockroach Janta Party on Sunday vowed to intensify its agitation against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, even as around 200 people were detained while protests were held at several places in the New Delhi area that

remained under a security chokehold. The Supreme Court on Sunday directed that people gathering peacefully should not be illegally detained and asked authorities to ensure that the Delhi Metro functions normally and there is no disruption to internet services, subject to law and order conditions. In a special sitting, a bench of Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana also issued a notice to the Centre while hearing a plea seeking contempt proceedings for the alleged violation of the court's direction to ensure that there is no "complete prohibition" on metro and train services in Delhi due to the CJP protest. Earlier in the day, ► P11



Record Oct rainfall hits Jammu; two dead, normal life disrupted

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Two people, including a woman, lost their lives as Jammu received 185.6 mm of rainfall in three hours on Sunday, shattering its 71-year October record of 160 mm set in 1955 and disrupting normal life, officials said. The record-breaking downpour,

Triggers waterlogging, landslides in various locations

which began around 8.30 am, inundated roads and residential areas, damaged vehicles and triggered landslides at several locations. The relentless rain also sent the maxi-

mum temperature plunging to 23.3 degrees Celsius, nine degrees below normal, the officials said. They said a 27-year-old woman went missing in Jammu's Raipur Domana area after allegedly being swept away by flash floods while trying to save her husband, who was attempting to move their parked car. The man managed to ► P11

No need to resign: Athawale backs
CEC, accuses CJP of inviting 'chaos'

Modi ji and Amit Shah ji have promised to restore Statehood at an appropriate time

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Union Minister Ramdas Athawale on Sunday extended support to Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, asserting that he does not need to resign over the allegations of deliberate voter deletions. "Out of the 13 crore voter deletions, six crore were due to change of residence for various reasons. Gyanesh Kumar ji does not need to resign over the vote chori allegations," Athawale, who heads the Re-



publican Party of India (RPI), told reporters here. The RPI is a constituent of BJP-led National Democratic Alliance. Defending the police action against the protesters in Delhi on Saturday, Athawale said anyone who indulges in violence will have to go to jail. "Protest is democratic right of people, but protests have to be peaceful. A person ► P11

9-day Navratra commences at
SMVD shrine amid heavy rush

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

KATRA/JAMMU: The holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi atop the Trikuta hills in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir reverberated with religious chants as nine-day Navratra commenced amid a heavy rush of devotees on the first day of the festival on Sunday.

Despite inclement weather conditions, pilgrims continued to arrive in large numbers to seek the blessings of the goddess Mata Vaishno Devi, creating an atmosphere of deep devotion and spiritual fervour, an official said. He, however, said owing to adverse weather conditions, helicopter services remained suspended for the day. Devotees visiting the shrine expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made by the Board, particularly the floral decorations



Shrine Board put special arrangements in place for the safety and the smooth movement of pilgrims, the official said. Devotees visiting the shrine expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made by the Board, particularly the floral decorations

and the crowd management. Pankaj Kumar, a devotee from Bihar, said he has been visiting the shrine on the first day of Navratri for eight consecutive years and feels spiritually fulfilled after every visit. He appreciated the arrangements and said that ► P11

Omar slams
'assault' on
CPI(M) MP

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday said the use of force by the Delhi Police to deal with unarmed protestors is unacceptable. "Unacceptable use of force by Delhi Police. Beating up an unarmed protester, setting aside the fact that in this case the victim is actually an elected member of Parliament, is unacceptable under any circumstances & is indefensible," Abdullah said in a post on his personal X account. He condemned the beating up of Rajya Sabha MP John Brittas by police during protests in Delhi. "I join all my @JKNC. ► P11

Behind Sonam Wangchuk's Image of Selfless Innovation: The Crore-Rupee Business That Deserves Answers

HIAL calls Sheshyon its enterprise arm. A private company linked to Wangchuk and his wife appears in defence procurement records, while a reported ₹6.5-crore institutional transfer remains disputed. The public deserves to know how the educational mission and commercial business are financially separated.

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU/LEH: Sonam Wangchuk has built a nationally recognised public identity around



environmental responsibility, innovative education, sustainable technology and the interests of Ladakh. But behind the image of a cele-

SEVEN QUESTIONS THAT DESERVE DOCUMENTARY ANSWERS

- First: What were the complete technical and financial quotations submitted by both bidders in the Nyoma Army shelter tender?
- Second: What were the final contract value, variations, completion status and payments made against the eight shelters?
- Third: What relationship, if any, existed between the competing bidder and institutions associated with Sheshyon's directors?
- Fourth: What commercial agreements governed the relationship between HIAL and Sheshyon, including any transfer or use of intellectual property?
- Fifth: Which manufacturers supplied the principal structural, insulation and thermal-storage materials, and what was their declared country of origin?
- Sixth: Were the prototype's claimed heating performance and subsequent redesign independently tested against comparable Indian and international technologies?
- Seventh: What do Sheshyon's audited accounts disclose about government contracts, related-party transactions, subcontractors, advances and outstanding receivables?

brated social innovator lies another dimension of his work that has received considerably less pub-

lic attention: a private commercial enterprise associated with his family, involved in specialised con-

struction and military accommodation, and closely connected to the educational ► P11

Jai Mata Di

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PURE VEGETARIAN

GI Tagged
Jammu Basmati

GI Tagged
Bhadarwahi Rajmah

JAMMU
KA ASLI
COMFORT
FOOD

ESPATO SPECIAL

RAIYMA CHOUL

with Cow Desi Ghee